

Appl. No. 09/752,089  
Amdt. Dated July 14, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of April 16, 2004

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend paragraph [0023] as shown below:

[0023] In selecting the optimal transmission rate, various factors are considered, including the characteristics of each link 28. For example, if four links between IMUX 20 and 22 are selected, such as links 28a-d, to carry the inverse multiplexed ATM cell stream, then four links are trained at the optimal rate. Calculation of the selected ~~optical~~optimal rate is subject of U.S. application Ser. No. 09/751,581 titled "Method and System for Establishing Link Bit Rate for Inverse Multiplexed Data Streams" [Filed on December 29, 2000 and incorporated herein by reference.